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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
HAWAII WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2008

16 January 1965

SUBJECT: August KARSNA

1. The information in paragraph 2 is that which was received by the undersigned after a perusal of the INS, Intelligence Section, files located in Room 547, 119 D Street, NE, Washington D.C. The undersigned used the identity of [] after [] Office of Security, had laid on the meeting between the undersigned and Mr. Braden, Mr. McCartney, and Mrs. Syard of INS.

2. The following is an extract of the pertinent items in KARSNA's INS file:

a. KARSNA submitted an application for immigration, #I-278852, to the State Department in Munich, Germany. He indicated that he was a lawyer, that he lived in DP Camp Augsburg-Haunstetten, Bavaria, Germany, that he was born on 26 December 1906 in Kuigatsi Vald, Valgama, Estonia, that he was 5'6", had brown hair, and grey eyes.

b. KARSNA's mother is Mai nee UBALEHT, born 10 February 1868. His father is Jaan KARSNA, born 15 February 1870 in Kuigatsi.

c. To his application for immigration he appended a photostatic copy of the Estonian Family Registration, Good Conduct Statements from the Augsburg DP camp police, and a photostatic copy of his divorce certificate.

d. According to the various supporting documents submitted, KARSNA lived in Kuigatsi from 1920 to 1926, in Valga from 1926 to 1931, in Frankfurt am Oder from October 1944 to 1945, and from February 1945 to date of application in Augsburg. He has been "divorced" since October 1949 from Veera KARSNA, born 5 September 1894 in Esna Vald, Estonia, by whom he has one child, Arvo KARSNA, born 8 August 1935 in Kuigatse Vald. He stated he speaks Estonian, Russian, German and English. He was sponsored to the USA by the National Lutheran Council, Junius Street, Brooklyn 12, New York, and was destined to the USA to be a "hospital worker".

e. A visa was granted to KARSNA under the provisions of the DP Act of 1948, PL 774.

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f. KARSNA presented a translation of his Estonian language "Certificate of Family Status", as an extract of the Family Registration of the town of Tartu, Estonia, Volume 23, Page 229. This extract was prepared on 17 April 1944.

g. On 4 August 1949 KARSNA submitted a request to the IRO for a divorce, stating that he had been evacuated from Estonia while his wife remained behind. He attested that he had received no word from his wife. In his statement to the IRO he affirmed that he had submitted a petition for divorce to the District Court (Landgericht), Augsburg, Germany. This court, per a statement of 21 October 1949, File AZ 23723/E, set his previous marriage aside.

h. He submitted a good conduct statement which was signed by the Chief of Police of the DP Camp Haunstetten.

i. According to the U.S. DP Commission "European Case No. 89593", KARSNA arrived in Germany on 2 October 1944. He then stated that he had attended primary school from 1914 to 1914 (sic) and the University of Estonia from 1931 to 1935. He also indicated that he was a deputy judge in an Estonian District Court and then practiced law in Tartu from 1937 until he left for Germany.

j. On 18 July 1950 KARSNA wrote to the INS to report that his address had changed from 236 East 34th Street, NYC to 20-23 19th Street, Long Island (Astoria). He also indicated that he works for the Firm M. ALLIK, 319 Pearl Street in NYC.

k. KARSNA's Alien Registration Number if 7402451.

l. KARSNA is now married to Elfriede Helene nee PEIL, Alien Registration # 7402834, an "orthopedival worker", who came to the USA on 27 December 1949 (on the same boat together with KARSNA). His wife was employed in 1950 by the Firm Bernhard, NY, 1111 East Lexington. KARSNA married her on 25 January 1950.

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SR/CII